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| <b>TRANSMITTAL<br/>FORM</b><br>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing) | Application Number     | 10/655,230        |
|   | Filing Date            | September 3, 2003 |
|   | First Named Inventor   | Karim, M. Ziaul   |
|   | Art Unit               | Unassigned        |
|   | Examiner Name          | Unassigned        |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission  | Attorney Docket Number | A8313/T51200      |

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s)<br>(please identify below):<br>Return Postcard, copy of one (1) cited reference |
| Remarks  |  | The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430.   |

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

|                    |  |                 |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|
| Firm or Individual | Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP<br>Patrick M. Boucher | Reg. No. 44,037 |
| Signature          |  |                 |
| Date               | 2003 Oct 3   |                 |

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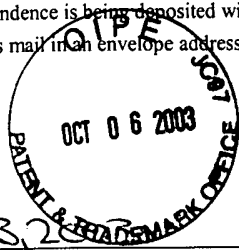
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|-----------------------|-------------------|------|------------|
| Typed or printed name | Nicole M. Wartell |      |            |
| Signature             |                   | Date | 10/03/2003 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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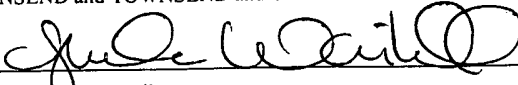
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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: A8313/T51200  
AMAT No.: 008313  
USA/DSM/HDP/CVD/JW  
TTC No.: 016301-051200US

On October 3, 2003

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By:   
Nicole M. Wartell

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of:

M. Ziaul Karim et al.

Application No.: 10/655230

Filed: 09-03-2003

For: IN-SITU-ETCH-ASSISTED HDP  
DEPOSITION USING SIF<sub>4</sub>, AND  
HYDROGEN

Examiner: Unassigned

Art Unit: Unassigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and  
§1.98

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A are being called to the attention of the Examiner. U.S. patents are not enclosed in accordance with the Patent Office waiver issued August 5, 2003 in the Official Gazette, which states as follows:

The Office hereby waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98

(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC 371 after June 30, 2003. See 37 CFR 1.491(b). For all patent


applications filed on or before June 30, 2003, copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are still required unless an eIDS is filed.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2), copies of the foreign patent documents and non-patent literature references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Patrick M. Boucher  
Reg. No. 44,037

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP  
Two Embarcadero Center, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Francisco, California 94111-3834  
Tel: 303-571-4000  
Fax: 303-571-4321  
PMB:nmb  
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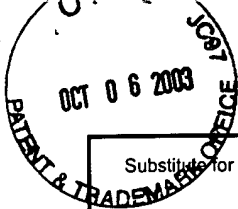


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|---|------------|----|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO<br><b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |            |    | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |              |
|   |            |    | Application Number       | 10/655230              |              |
|   |            |    | Filing Date              | 09-03-2003             |              |
|   |            |    | First Named Inventor     | Karim, M. Ziaul        |              |
|   |            |    | Art Unit                 | Unassigned             |              |
| Examiner Name   | Unassigned |    |                          |                        |              |
| Sheet   | 1          | of | 3                        | Attorney Docket Number | A8313/T51200 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+ |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials*  | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                        |                          | Number Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
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|                       |  |                    |  |
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| Examiner<br>Signature |  | Date<br>Considered |  |
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60045306 v1



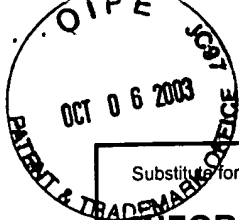
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| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br>(use as many sheets as necessary) |            |    | <b>Complete if Known</b> |                        |              |
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|   |            |    | Filing Date              | 09-03-2003             |              |
|   |            |    | First Named Inventor     | Karim, M. Ziaul        |              |
|   |            |    | Art Unit                 | Unassigned             |              |
| Examiner Name   | Unassigned |    |                          |                        |              |
| Sheet   | 2          | of | 3                        | Attorney Docket Number | A8313/T51200 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+ |                          |  |                                |  |   |
|------------------------|--------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials*  | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Document Number                          | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
|                        |                          | Number Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known) |                                |  |   |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |                          |                           |                     |                                   |                                |   |  |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials*    | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Foreign Patent Document   |                     |                                   | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited<br>Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant<br>Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear | T <sup>6</sup>           |
|                          |                          | Country Code <sup>3</sup> | Number <sup>4</sup> | Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known) |                                |   |  |                          |
|                          | B1                       | JP                        | 7-161703            | A                                 | 06-23-1995                     |   | Abstract only  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | B2                       | JP                        | 2058836             | A                                 | 02-28-1990                     |   | Abstract only  | <input type="checkbox"/> |
|                          | B3                       | GB                        | 2 267 291           |                                   | 12-01-1993                     |   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> |

Examiner  
SignatureDate  
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|   |   |    | Examiner Name            | Unassigned             |              |
| Sheet   | 3 | of | 3                        | Attorney Docket Number | A8313/T51200 |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|----------------|
| Examiner<br>Initials *          | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T <sup>2</sup> |
|                                 | C1                       | ABRAHAM, "Reactive Facet Tapering of Plasma Oxide For Multilevel Interconnect Applications," VMIC Conference, pgs. 115-121 (1987).  |                |
|                                 | C2                       | LEE et al., "Dielectric Planarization Techniques For Narrow Pitch Multilevel Interconnects," VMIC Conference, pgs. 85-92 (1987).  |                |
|                                 | C3                       | MUSAKA, "Single Step Gap Filling Technology fo Subhalf Micron Metal Spacings on Plasma Enhanced TEOS/O2 Chemical Vapor Deposition System," International Conference on Solid State Devices and Materials pgs. 510-512, held in Japan, (1993).                   |                |
|                                 | C4                       | NALWA, H.S., Handbook of Low and High Dielectric Constant Materials and Their Applications, vol. 1, page 66 (1999).   |                |
|                                 | C5                       | NGUYEN, s.v., "High-Density Plasma Chemical Vapor Deposition of Silicon-Based Dielectric Films for Integrated Circuits," Journal of Research and Development, vol. 43, 1/2 (1999).  |                |
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|                                 | C7                       | VASSILIEUV et al., "Trends in void-free pre-metal CVD dielectrics," <u>Solid State Technology</u> , 2001, pgs. 129-136, www.solid-state.com.  |                |

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